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## CALLS HUBBY A RED IN DIVORCE PETITION

NEWPORT, R. I., Jan. 29.—For the first time in the history of New England courts Bolshevism has been charged in a divorce petition.

Mrs. Pauline Atlas filed the petition in the superior court against her husband, Abraham Atlas. She alleges he has been guilty of misbehavior in that he has attempted to convert her to the radical doctrine in which he believes by refusing to allow her to associate with any one who does not believe in like doctrine, and that he has threatened to force her to go to Russia with him against her will.

The case probably will come up for a hearing at the March session of the court.

## QUAINT GALLI-CURCI COOS AS DOVE TO BIG AUDIENCE

Picturesque Prima Donna Delights By Purity of Vocalization and Mellow Tones.

There are but few single artists who have the vogue of the picturesque little prima donna, Mme. Amelita Galli-Curci. Pol's Theater was filled to what looked like more than its capacity, with the stage and the standing room completely taxed, at her first recital of the season yesterday afternoon in the series, presented by Mrs. Wilson-Greene.

Quaint, like an old daguerreotype, Mme. Galli-Curci recalls other days in both her art and in her appearance. This little singer charms by the purity of her vocalization, by its

astonishing freedom and ease of expression in delicate runs, in cooling, dovetailed trills of amazing facility, and also by the mellow beauty in her tone.

She offers little in interpretation, little in emotion. It is a serene and perfect instrument of virtuosic singing, with rare musical beauty of tone in her marvelous command of legato and in her coloratura work that rose at the close of her program to spontaneous fluency, but that at the beginning was delivered with more than her usual precision and carefulness.

But what unusual staccato phrases, what delicious facility and flexibility in her diction! The Edward German "Daffodils a-Blowing," with a very charming English, showed the freedom of words as well as tones and closed with a delicate portamento in tone of very personal quality in its smoothness and subtlety. The Spanish "Clavelitos," of Valverde, displayed that gift with quite an irresistible flow of language.

Three opera arias and the Dell Acqua "La Villanella," with flute, gave opportunity to the particular art of Mme. Galli-Curci. In the latter part she not alone sang like a bird, or like the flute, but her tone held a warmth and beauty that gave to the flute a metallic quality in comparison. Her double trills are wonderful.

It is surprising, at first, to find it such a small voice. Yet it carries in its gentleness to the farthest reaches of the auditorium. One wishes, however, that more of temperament could be put into the "Sempre Libera" from "Traviata," that it could be less of a mechanism. And in one here Mme. Galli-Curci was not above reproach.

**Dulcet Tones Fascinate.**

Yet who could so round off a long and marvelously sustained tone, melting it into another tone, as she did in the "I Puritani" "Qui la voce" Her top notes scaled the heights with less of musical beauty than have been heard by her, but Galli-Curci has a tender and rare organ in her little throat, that sends out dulcet tones that fascinate even though they do not thrill.

For encores she sang "There Are Palms in the Bottom of My Garden," by Lehmann; a rarely exquisite and appealing "Suwanee River," "Love's Old Sweet Song," an old Normandy folksong, "La bell' al nous etions dedans" of Weckerlin, and "Robin Adair," and a repetition of the Spanish "Clavelitos."

Manuel Benquer, solo flutist gave a very lovely but rather uninteresting Hue "Fantasie" with delightful effects of both the flute and the piano as played by Homer Samuels, who proved himself a very sympathetic accompanist, and in his own song, "The Little Bells of Sevilla," a composer of genuine musical gifts. It is an exquisite song. J. McB.

**FIVE BUILDINGS BURNED.**

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Jan. 29.—Fire, resulting from a defective furnace, caused the total destruction of five buildings in the heart of the business section of this city. Practically an entire quarter square was gutted, a loss is estimated at nearly \$1,000,000. No loss of life has been reported.

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